

REMARKS**INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with the following, reconsideration of the allowability of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-27 are pending and under consideration, with claims 4-7, 12-15, and 20-24 having been indicated as including allowable subject matter.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 103

Claims 1-3, 8-11, 16-19, and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Tokui, U.S. Patent No. 5,987,532, in view of Casady et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,759,009. This rejection respectfully traversed.

By way of review and as an example, independent claim 1 sets forth:

"[a] chained image display apparatus comprising a plurality of image display apparatuses connected in series and controlled by a central control unit, the chained image display apparatus comprising:

a control signal driving unit converting a control signal inputted to the image display apparatuses into a control signal having a predetermined level and buffering the control signal having the predetermined level; and

an examining unit transmitting an alert signal, in response to a power supply to one image display apparatus among the plurality of image display apparatuses being interrupted, to next and previous image display apparatuses which are connected to the one image display apparatus to which the power supply was interrupted, indicating that the power supply to the one image display apparatus is interrupted."

As noted in the previous response, and only as an example, the independent claims at least claim (with differing scope and breadth) the transmitting of an alert, in response to a "power supply to one image display apparatus among the plurality of display apparatuses being interrupted," to next and previous display apparatuses, as stated in independent claim 1, for example.

Thus, there must be a plurality of display apparatus and the alert must be transmitted in response to an interruption of a power supply to one of the image display apparatuses.

The Office Action has indicated that Tokui sets forth the claimed control signal driving unit but fails to disclose the examining unit, i.e., the claimed "examining unit transmitting an alert signal, in response to a power supply to one image display apparatus among the plurality of

image display apparatuses being interrupted, to next and previous image display apparatuses which are connected to the one image display apparatus to which the power supply was interrupted, indicating that the power supply to the one image display apparatus is interrupted."

In the outstanding Office Action, to disclose this feature, the Office Action now relies upon Casady et al., indicating that Casady et al. discloses the missing deficient features of Tokui. The Office Action further relies upon the benefits of the arranged system of Casady et al. as the required motivation for modifying Tokui to include the same.

First, Tokui sets forth a system of serially connected display units that transfer video data through the serial connection. The focus of Tokui is in setting and using ID codes for each unit. As shown in FIG. 1, actual display units U1, U2, U3, and U4 are serially connected.

Tokui further explains that the display units may be projection TVs, for example, which receives particular image data for that display unit. The display units are end devices for receiving video information and displaying the same.

The primary focus of tokui would appear to be the setting and using of ID codes for each unit using a serial data transmission. For example, in col. 4, lines 62-67, Tokui sets forth: "[f]urther, unlike the case of using a bus, in which a plurality of parallel lines are required, the serial data transmission of the invention allows data to be transmitted by, e.g., a pair of lines twisted. In addition, since the respective display units can be connected in a cascade manner, the system construction can be simplified."

Thus, in Tokui, with the use of IDS, the individual displays can be connected in an improved serial manner, thereby simplifying the overall system.

Conversely, Casady et al. sets forth a fundamentally different system, for a telephone/data T1 system wherein the 24 data channels in the T1 line are divided to respective terminal stations through T1 line connecting the terminal stations. Based upon select alarm bits in select frames/packets, alarm information for each terminal can be identified.

However, differently from the serial connection of display units in Tokui, Casady et al. discloses a higher-level control of data, i.e., not at the end display unit but at a terminal providing data to a number of end user/subscriber stations. Connections to the end user/subscriber are parallel bus connections.

The focus of Casady et al. is in identifying whether the higher-level terminals 13a-13d are in alarm, not whether the end user/subscriber stations are in alarm.

Regardless, when any one terminal is in alarm particular bits in an select frames/packets are set, thereby identifying that terminal as being in alarm. Since each terminal is designated particular channels (e.g., channels 1-6, 7-12, 13-18, or 19-24) from the 24 available channels,

particular bits within those respective channels can be set. See Casady et al. in col. 4, lines 10-17, 20-28, 32-35, and 38-60, for example.

In particular, Casady et al. explains potential terminal alarms, such as power failure, loss of synchronization, an over/under voltage, a blown fuse, a door being ajar, etc., as being alerted through these particular bit settings.

In the normal operation, the T1 bitstream proceeds from terminal to terminal, with each terminal selectively either setting the alarm bits or not setting the bits, thereby identifying alarm or no alarm.

In the situation when there is loss of synchronization or a power failure, that terminal is completely bypassed. "In normal operation, by-pass relays 26a-26d are normally operated such that voice or data fed to a remote terminal passes serially to the remote terminals; however, if a predetermined service threatening condition (e.g., power failure or losing synchronization with the incoming T1 bit stream) should occur in any terminal 13a-13d, the corresponding by-pass relay 26a-26d is deactivated thereby causing the data fed to such terminal to by-pass such terminal thereby allowing the remainder of the digital carrier communication system 5 to remain operational." Casady et al. in col. 4, lines 40-51.

Thus, Casady et al. is directed toward identifying alarms in a T1 network, where the available channels have been divided up between particular terminals. Particular bits with their respective channels can be set by each terminal to identify the alarm state of each terminal. If there is a power failure for a terminal, then that terminal is completely by-passed.

Here, Casady et al. is also not directed toward any alarm state of the end user/subscriber, but directed primarily to an alarm state of a higher level data transmission system.

Conversely, as noted above, Tokui is directed to the lower level interconnection between a computer and display units using IDs sent to each display apparatus.

Accordingly, though the two systems monitor/control 'remote' units, the underlying structures of the systems are completely different.

One (Casady et al.) is a T1 data transmission system with remote data transmission terminals to provide data to end users, with a particular data stream protocol for each end user/subscriber and a particular T1 protocol between remote terminals. The other (Tokui) is a video distribution system for serially providing video data from a single computer to several display units, with also a particular video data protocol between the computer and the display units.

Here, the data transmission protocols are fundamentally different, the focus of the underlying inventions are fundamentally different, and the required systems and hardware for implementing both inventions are fundamentally different.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that it would not have been obvious to take the T1 alarm system of Casady et al. and attempt to implement the same in the video signal distribution system of Tokui.

In addition, as noted above, it is further respectfully submitted that the portions of Casady et al. relied upon to disclose the deficient features of Tokui have also been misinterpreted.

Casady et al. does not disclose or suggest detecting/monitoring/controlling alarms between display units. In addition, Casady et al. particularly details that when there is a power failure the underlying terminal is ignored/by-passed, while independent claim 1 particularly requires that the alert signal is transmitted to "next and previous image display apparatuses."

Thus, in addition to there not being motivation for modifying Tokui to include features of Casady et al., it is respectfully submitted that Casady et al. further fails to disclose the proffered deficient features of Tokui.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

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Respectfully submitted,
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